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The Daily Diary of the Islands

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Indian Coast Guard
Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre
Port Blair
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Jarawa Facts

The Jaraw a move around the forest in groups or 40 or 50 people. They build small temporary huts w hilst on the move, and also build large huts w here several families live together. They collect honey, roots and berries, hunt pigs and monitor lizards, and catch fish with spears.

Your Nature Guide

Coral Colonies : Many thousands of coral polyps are connected together to form a coral colony. These colonies are of many shapes and colours. On a visit to a nearby coral reef, you can discover the kinds of coral in your area. Coral polyps produce eggs and spermw hich fuse (join) to form a larva or the baby coral animals (planula- many planula are called planulae) that drifts in the sea till it finds a clean, hard surface (like dead coral) to settle on and grow. Reef animals like parrot fish, limpets, chitons, and sea urchins feed on plants and sponges that grow on dead coral, thus creating free space for new corals to settle and grow. Corals also reproduce by budding. Small buds appear on the body of the adult polyp grow larger, and break off from the parent body. They then move off to produce their own limestone and help the colony increase in size.

Treasured Islands - By Sunita Rao. Courtesy: Kalpavriksh, ANET (MCBT)

People's Voice

Abye Meth kahan se aata hai, ye in he dono Accused se nikalwao aur poora Racket ka parda faash kar do ...

- A Citizen

Our drought-hit villages are better than these rain-hit cities!

Methamphetamine Peddling Case: CCS Arrests Co-Accused and Seize Commercial Quantity of the Drug from His Possession

Port Blair, July 14: In a significant breakthrough, the Central Crime Station of CID Unit has successfully apprehended an individual involved in the possession and distribution of illegal narcotics. The arrest was made during the further investigation of FIR No. 44/2023, dated 11/07/2023, registered under Section 22(b) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, wherein S. Karthick, S/o N.Selvam was arrested for possession of 5.62 gms of Meth Amphetamine on 11/07/2023. During his Police Remand, he was put under sustained interrogation and besides technical analysis, details of his close associate were also unearthed. Based on diligent efforts by our dedicated team, it was revealed that S. Bala Murugan, son of Mr. Shanta Kumar, aged 23 years, resident of Bambanallah, Sippighat, is a close associate of the previously apprehended

Continued on P2

Island Born Researcher Dr. Pronob Sircar Discovers New Shell-Midden of Great Andamanese

The New Discovery Comes Three Decades After Dr. Zarine Cooper Had Discovered Chouldari Midden

Report by Denis Giles:

Under a long term project on the human settlement on the Andaman Islands between 1989 and mid 90s, cave sites and shell-middens including a shell-midden at Chouldari were examined by Dr. Zarine Cooper, a Pune based archaeologist and evidence indicates that the Islands were settled well over 2000 years ago and all the main islands have traces of ancient habitation.

The area name Sippi Tekri in Middle Andaman is based on

a large kitchen-midden or shell-midden. After Zarine Cooper no one has yet made any attempt to pay visit to such known and unknown middens and document the same.

Continued on P4

Rigorous Imprisonment for Life Awarded for Gruesome Murder of Wife

Mayabunder, July 14: On 05/07/2023, Shri Subhayu Banerjee, Hon'ble Additional Session Judge, North & Middle Andaman District, Mayabunder has convicted one person namely Bhabasindu Mondal R/o Parangara under PS Kalighat for committing gruesome murder of his wife.

A case vide FIR No. 33/21 dtd. 10/11/2021 u/s 302 IPC was registered at PS Kalighat against the accused and the investigation was taken up by SI G. Suresh Kumar, SHO PS Kalighat himself. During investigation the IO conducted a thorough investigation, recorded statement of prime witnesses, collected all the evidences. He left no stone unturned, walked an extra mile and burnt his midnight oil to finalize the case and submitted the chargesheet

Continued on P4

VHP Central Governing Council Approves New State Committee for A&N Islands

Port Blair, July 14: The Central Governing Council Meeting of Vishwa Hindu Parishad was held on 24 to 25 June at Raipur, Chhattisgarh. Representatives from all over the India participated in the Council meeting of Vishwa Hindu Parishad. A

Continued on P4

Member of Parliament Demands Urgent Posting of a Lab Technician at PHC Billiground

Port Blair, July 14: The Member of Parliament, Shri. Kuldeep Rai Sharma has requested the Chief Secretary, A&N Administration to urgently post a Lab Technician for PHC Billiground.

In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary, the Member of Parliament said that he has been informed by residents of Middle Andaman that the Primary Health Centre Billiground has been operating without a lab technician for the past one month.

Continued on P4

Island Girl Kashthuri Bhai Represents India in 17th Asian School Chess Championship

Port Blair, July 14: The 17th Asian Schools Chess Championships 2023 begins in Tashkent, Uzbekistan today. R Kashthuri Bhai from Andaman & Nicobar Islands represents India as an official entry in Under 17 Girls Category.

The championship will be held for 7 days from 14th July to 20th July 2023 in three different formats viz the Rapid, Classical (Standard) and Blitz. The Rapid event will be held on 14th July 2023 followed by the prestigious Classical Championship from 15th to 19th July and culminated with Blitz Championship & Closing ceremony on 20th July 2023.

The top 3 players in each category will be awarded with Trophies, Medals and certificates.

Players from China, India, Australia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Kazakhstan, Taiwan, Bangladesh, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan & host nation Uzbekistan are participating in the championship.

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Success is not an activity but a process ...

Work in Progress

Meeting after nearly five months, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council on Tuesday unravelled some knotty issues that were hanging fire for a long time, such as the constitution of Appellate Tribunals and the tax treatment for the booming online gaming industry. With the appointment norms for tribunal members cleared, the Centre has given an assurance that the first set of tribunals should become operational in four to six months. While States have proposed 50 tribunal benches, these will come up in a phased manner, beginning with State capitals and cities with High Court benches. Industry may hope for quicker redress of mounting GST litigations clogging up courts. On the other hand, businesses have reacted with much consternation to the Council's decision to finalise a 28% GST levy on the face value of all bets placed in online games, casinos or horse-racing, with many e-gaming players terming it a death knell for the growing industry and its thousands of jobs. This was not a hasty decision, having been considered by a ministerial group of the Council not once, but twice since its formation in late 2020. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the Council acknowledged that Goa and Sikkim rely heavily on casino-driven tourism revenues, but also examined the moral question of whether this can be equated to the more compassionate tax treatment warranted for essential goods and services. With the Electronics and IT Ministry also formulating a policy for online gaming, this decision, requiring an amendment to the GST law, may yet need some review and fine tuning.

The Council also granted tax exemptions, reduced or clarified some rates and regularised past incongruencies in tax payments on some items owing to confusion about their classification. So, food and beverages in cinema halls will now attract a lower 5% GST, as would unfried, uncooked snack pellets, fish soluble paste and imitation zari yarn. It is not clear why the Council took six years after the GST regime's launch to tweak these rates. Exempting drugs imported for cancer and some rare diseases, for instance, could have been envisaged earlier as well, just as the intended higher tax levy on sport utility vehicles could have been. Dissuading the use of larger personal vehicles is an obvious necessity for a country where traffic congestion is intense and widespread. The impact of some decisions on individual sectors will depend on the fine print, but the Council, which may meet less frequently in the upcoming poll season, has taken its eye off the promised overhaul of GST rates. No successor was named to steer the ministerial group on rate restructuring, previously helmed by erstwhile Karnataka Chief Minister, B.S. Bommai.

BOB'S BANTER

BY ROBERT CLEMENTS

Fire in the Engine..!

"What is it?" asks the pilot, as the airhostess enters the cockpit.

"Sir, a passenger has reported that he saw a flame of fire spurt out from the starboard engine!"

"Nonsense!" says the bearded pilot, "Come here, just look at all the instruments, none of them report anything amiss! Ask Amit, the copilot here! Any fire copilot?"

"None at all! None at all!" says the bald copilot, shaking his head then telling the airhostess to leave.

Well the passenger sees another flame of fire, and another, soon the other passengers notice, and very soon, despite the pilot and co-pilot objecting to these reactions by the passengers, the plane is seen from inside, engulfed in fire.

Not too dissimilar are the reactions of a government in a country when foreign agencies report or draw attention to disturbances in their country. The European Union Parliament on Wednesday adopted at its plenary session in France's Strasbourg a joint motion by six political groups seeking decisive steps to end the 'ethnic and religious violence' in Manipur!

"Interference not acceptable!" shouts the government.

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"Any fire in the engine Amit?" asks the pilot.

"No fire!" smiles the copilot as the plane cruises with its engine on fire.

External checks and balances are needed to govern a country, because those checks and balances are the only way to keep a country above water and flying high.

And these glances at the engine can only be done by outside observers. Pilots looking at their instrument panel may see nothing amiss, but cannot disregard a call from a flight controller in an airport saying, 'your wheels haven't descended for landing' or from a passenger at the window who says, "I saw spouts of fire!"

These are warnings that tell us that all is not well in the state of Denmark as Shakespeare would say through Hamlet.

We don't need a Hamlet here to tell us that an engine is on fire!

"Sir," says the airhostess, entering the cockpit again, her face pale with fright, "The passengers are screaming for you to land the plane and put the fire out!"

"Which passengers?" asks Amit, the copilot.

"The ones near the window!"

"Remove them from their seats and strap them to the ground!" he shouts as the pilot grins.

"After that pull the blinds down in all the windows!" says the pilot, and the pilot and copilot guffaw and pat each other on the back as to the easy and clever way they feel they have solved the problem of the fire in the engine!

And then suddenly the plane begins it's nosedive as passengers scream and airhostesses hold each other in fright, while the pilot and copilot shake their heads and realize too late, they have no idea what to do now..!

bobsbanter@gmail.com

Methamphetamine Peddling Case: CCS Arrests Co-Accused and Seize Commercial Quantity of the Drug from His Possession

Continued from Page 1

accused, S. Karthick. Both individuals hail from the same locality and have been actively involved in the illegal drug trade.

A through interrogation of S. Bala Murugan was carried out at PS CCS and crucial information was uncovered. Upon further investigation and acting on the information provided by S. Bala Murugan, the police conducted a search operation in the vicinity of his residence in Sippighat area. As a result, 739 grams of Meth Amphetamine (Commercial Quantity) was seized, which was concealed clandestinely beneath dried arecanut leaves in plantation being managed by S. Bala Murugan family.The operation was carried out by a team comprising of ASI Mohd. Rafique, Head Constable Sanjay Kujur& Sanjit Madhu, Constable K. Rajendran, N. Thangaraj, and Chandran of PS CCS under the supervision of Dy.SP (CID) Sh. Piyush Jain, DANIPS.

Consequently, Mr. S. Bala Murugan has been arrested under section 22(c)/29 of the NDPS Act for possession of commercial quantity of Meth Amphetamine.

The seizure of this significant quantity of Methamphetamine highlights the commitment of the Central Crime Station to combat the drug menace that plagues out society. By dismantling, this illicit operation, the CCS has dealt a severe blow to the network of drug peddlers. We encourage citizensto remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities including drug-related incidents to the police on the telephone numbers: 233307, 232586, 100, &9531856080. By working together, we can create a safer and more secure environment for all residents and visitors.

ENTERTAINMENT

‘Bawaal’: Varun Dhawan and Janhvi Kapoor on their ‘life-changing’ Second World War journe

Anticipation is high forDangal and Chhichhore filmmaker Nitesh Tiwari’s next feature, Bawaal, starring Varun Dhawan and Janhvi Kapoor. An intriguing (and much-disputed) trailer has set the tone for what seems to be an intense drama set in the backdrop of the Second World War trail across Europe.

Following the relationship between a small-town high school History teacher, Ajay Dixit, and his newly-wed wife Nisha, the film traces the couple’s journey, as circumstances see them traverse across Poland, the Netherlands and Germany. Already reeling from a strained marriage, Ajay (Varun) and Nisha (Janhvi) try to stay afloat despite a series of events that tests their love and forces them to confront their inner battles.

Written as an ode to director Nitesh Tiwari’s father (who was a History teacher), Bawaal is set to be a landmark project in both the lead stars’ careers, as they look forward to packed schedules.

Varun is fresh off his twin successes of family drama Jugjugg Jeeyo and creature-feature Bhediya — two films that further cemented his reputation as one of the country’s most bankable stars — as he next prepares for his action-entertainer with Jawan and Bigil director Atlee, as well as Raj & DK’s Indian instalment of Citadelalongside Samantha Ruth Prabhu. Meanwhile, after testing her mettle with two remakes in Good Luck Jerry and Mili, Janhvi has the sports drama Mr. & Mrs. Mahi, international thriller Ulajh, andDevara with Jr. NTR in the pipeline.

In Dubai’s stunning Queen Elizabeth II floating hotel for the launch of the film, the actors talk to us about the project that is set to premiere next week on Amazon Prime Video.

Emmys 2023: Barack and Michelle Obama bag nominations

Former President of the United States Barack Obama received his second Emmy nomination for his role as the narrator in the Netflix docuseries Working: What We Do All Day.

In the show, Barack Obama and the series’ filmmakers conducted interviews with workers from three different sectors: hospitality, home care, and tech. Their aim was to delve into the experiences of a typical workday in each industry and shed light on the primary challenges faced by workers.

Working is a production of Higher Ground, the production company founded by Barack and Michelle Obama. In 2018, Higher Ground signed a content deal with Netflix, allowing them to create films and television series for the popular streaming platform.

The former first lady, Michelle Obama, received her first Emmy nomination alongside Oprah Winfrey for the outstanding hosted nonfiction series or special titled The Light We Carry: Michelle Obama & Oprah Winfrey. The show featured a conversation between Michelle Obama and Oprah Winfrey, centered around Michelle’s 2022 book, The Light We Carry.

Meanwhile, Barack Obama has already secured an Emmy win last year in the best narrator category for his work on Netflix’s Our Great National Parks, also produced by Higher Ground. Additionally, he has been recognized with multiple Grammy Awards, winning twice for the best spoken word album category.

Higher Ground Productions, the Obamas’ production company, has made a notable impact on the awards circuit. Their 2019 documentary, American Factory, received an Oscar for best documentary feature and an Emmy for outstanding direction of a documentary.

Michelle Obama has also been honoured with a Grammy award in 2020 for the best-spoken album

Health, Science /Tech

Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre to carry out system checkouts ahead of Chandraayan-3 launch

Thiruvananthapuram, July 14: On Friday afternoon, the spotlight will be on the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, from where India’s third moon mission will take to the skies. But some of the action before the lift-off will take place at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) in Thumba.

The virtual launch control centre (VLCC) at the VSSC will have an important role to play in safely seeing off the powerful LVM3 launch vehicle carrying the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft. The facility allows the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to remotely carry out system checkouts on the launch vehicle prior to a mission.

For the July 14 launch, scheduled for 2.35 p.m., all system check-outs up to 14 minutes and 30 seconds before lift-off from Sriharikota will be remotely carried out from the VLCC, a VSSC official said.

‘‘The VLCC will be fully operational on Friday. System check-outs, including those of the electronics, actuators and commands, will be carried out from the VLCC to make sure that they are operating properly. The launch command will be given from Sriharikota,’’ the official said. ‘‘At 14 minutes 30 seconds, the launch vehicle will be in auto launch sequence under the onboard computer,” the official added.

The VSSC is ISRO’s lead unit for launch vehicles, and is responsible for the design and development of the LVM3 (formerly GSLV Mk-III) launch vehicle.

During pandemic time

A replica of the launch control centre at Sriharikota, the VLCC at Thumba was operationalised during the COVID-19 pandemic when large-scale movement of personnel for space missions was out of the question. Since then, the facility, manned by a small group of scientists, has been activated for various missions including the LVM3 M2/OneWeb India-1 mission in October 2022.

Chandrayaan-3 is a follow-up mission to the 2019 Chandrayaan-2 mission. The Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft is composed of the Propulsion Module and the Lander and Rover aboard it. After the July 14 launch, ISRO expects to soft-land the lander on the lunar surface in the last week of August. The lander has four payloads, the rover two, and the propulsion module, one.

A&N Islands All Set to Host Two-Day Monsoon Festival at Corbyn's

Port Blair, July 14: A&N Islands is all set to host the first fest of this season, the two-day 'Monsoon Tourism Festival-2023' being organized by the Tourism Department in association with all line Departments of A&N Administration and tourism stakeholders beginning tomorrow evening (July 15) at Corbyn's Cove Beach from 4 pm to 9 pm. As part of the festival, Rain Dance Competition and Rain Photography Competition are being organized. For the rain dance competition, on the spot entries will be accepted. All Islanders have been welcomed to visit the festival and join in the rain dance featuring DJ.

Apart from dance performance by highly talented local groups and live musical performance on stage by local bands of these Islands, food stalls would be an added attraction for tourists to taste the local flavours of the Islands. For the convenience of the people visiting the festival, the State Transport Department has made special arrangement by diverting the buses plying to Bathubasti to ply through Corbyn's Cove.

CITU Delegation Demand Grant of 1/30th Pay Plus DA to PBMC DRMs

Port Blair, July 14: Shri D. Ayyappan, Vice President, CITU Andaman & Nicobar State Organising Committee along with Secretaries of CITU State Committee SP Kalairajan and Anand Rajan met the Secretary, Port Blair Municipal Council today (14.07.2023) and demanded immediate grant of 1/30th of pay plus DA to all the remaining daily rated mazdoors working under the PBMC. He informed to the Secretary, PBMC that almost all the departments under the Administration have implemented the A & N Administration's order dated 9th May, 2023 on this issue and said that the PBMC is yet to grant this benefit to its eligible workers.

Ayyappan demanded that the services of all the daily rated mazdoors working in the PBMC may be regularized and suggested that vacant posts in the PBMC should be filled up by regularizing the services of these DRMs immediately. Ayyappan further requested the Secretary, PBMC to issue uniform, rain coat, hand glove, etc. to the Municipal workers. He also demanded that all the sanitary workers may be medically examined.

Secretary, PBMC assured the CITU delegation that the demands will be examined and action taken as per rules immediately.

Member of Parliament Demands Urgent Posting of a Lab Technician at PHC Billiground

Continued from Page 1

He said that this circumstance has resulted in great inconvenience for patients who are now forced to travel to District Hospital Mayabunder or CHC Rangat to obtain blood test or urine test reports.

He further mentioned that considering the ongoing rainy season and the adverse road conditions of NH4, it becomes difficult for many patients to undertake such a long journey for a simple test.

"Furthermore, the financial burden of travelling on NH4 is also proving to be unaffordable for many remote villagers," he said.

The Member of Parliament said that blood tests and urine tests are fundamental diagnostic procedures that are expected to be readily available at any functioning healthcare facility and hence it is of utmost urgency that a qualified lab technician be posted immediately at PHC Billiground.

VHP Central Governing Council Approves New State Committee for A&N Islands

Continued from Page 1

total of 237 office bearers from all Prants (provinces) across the country and world participated in the 2-day council meeting. In the meeting discussion over all vital issues of Hindu Samaj and resolution was passed to stop attack on Hindu family system 5ØŠÞ5Ø—Þ5Ø Þ impose complete ban on religious conversion. Nationwide Shaurya Jagran Yathra was organised by Bajrang Dal to connect the young generations.

Members of Council also presented the proposed names of State Committee of Vishwa Hindu Parishad for Andaman Nicobar Islands. The Centre Governing Council accepted and approved the New State Committee of Vishwa Hindu Parishad of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The Proposed committee was constituted in presence of Shri Sapan Kumar Mukherjee, Kehetriya Sangathan Mantri, Dakshin Bangal during his visit at A&N Islands.

The Central Governing Council, Vishwa Hindu Parishad declared Shri Brijesh Pandey as President of VHP, Shri Rajesh Ram, General Secretary, Shri Kunal Goel as Treasurer of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, A&N Islands.

Rigorous Imprisonment for Life Awarded for Gruesome Murder of Wife

Continued from Page 1

before the Hon'ble Court within 42 days. The trial of the case was carried out in fast track and the officer has taken keen interest in the appearance and pairvi of each and every witness during trial which resulted in the conviction of the case.

After completion of hearing the Hon'ble Additional District & Sessions Judge, Mayabunder sentenced the accused to undergo rigorous imprisonment for life alongwith a fine for an amount of Rs. 20,000/- and in failure he shall undergo rigorous imprisonment for a further period of 2 months for committing the said gruesome murder.

The general public is requested to pass and share any credible information pertaining to any crime to their nearest Police Station or over phone No.100, 112 & 03192-273344. Their identity will be kept secretly and they will be suitability rewarded for their brave act.

Island Born Researcher Dr. Pronob Sircar Discovers New Shell-Midden of Great Andamanese

Continued from Page 1

Such sites are rich in pottery, faunal remains and in stone and bone artefacts.

At the Chouldari site, the tall, 2000-year-old mound yielded, in the earlier phase of occupation, molluscan species belonging to rocky shores and estuaries, whereas at a later stage the mud flats in the littoral and sublittoral zones were increasingly exploited. The species of bivalves included Marcia Recens, Anadara Granosa and Scapharca (Cunearca) Congrua (Cooper 1990). The chemical and mineral analysis of soil from this site, as also the X-ray diffraction studies of shells, revealed a period of abandonment spanning several centuries.

As a good news with all excitements for all the islanders and as a matter of pride for all, an island born researcher Dr. Pronob Kumar Sircar with his team has discovered a hitherto unseen shell-midden in the deep rainforest between Port Mouat and Hobdaypur of South Andaman.

Dr Sircar on our contact mentioned that he discovered and explored a huge shell-midden with an approximate height of 5-6 meters for the first time in the region out of Chouldari in South Andaman. He visited the site on 7th July 2023. From the analyses of its geographical location and historical events of the recent past, it is concluded by Dr. Sircar that the site is located in the midst of the forests of South Andaman near a creek. After the Tsunami of 2004, the edge of the mound has been approached by creek waters.

Sircar, renowned historian and anthropologist of the Islands on interrogation by Andaman Chronicle states that the bay at Port Mouat area was approved by Lord Canning to be named Port Mouat but the Great Andamanese arrived to occupy the place thousands of years ago. He further stated that this exploration is significant in the context that after the return of Doodnath Tiwari (who played a key role in Battle of Aberdeen). Doodnath Tiwari explained to Dr Walker (stated on 26 May 1859 at Page 2 of copy of his statement) that he had visited Port Mouat on several occasions. So probably he visited this camp site too during 1858-59 when he was staying and wandering with the Great Andamanese in the region.

Sircar further continued to say about the significance of the location that the discovered shell-midden is few kilometers away from Mount Augusta and the Andaman history has it that during the month of May 1866, Homfray moved the Andaman Home from Ross Island to the new settlement at Port Mouat. The first Home was built on the shore, a little westward of Mount Augusta. Homfray lived there for some time. In 1868, Col. Man decided to establish an orphanage and Homes at Mount Augusta for the Andamanese.

Looking to the huge size of the discovered mound, Dr Sircar comes on the conclusion that the camp-site was one of the main inhabited areas of the Great Andamanese. He further says that a future research with a scientific methodology will throw more light on this new discovery.

Andaman Chronicle invites articles, feature and opinions from our esteemed readers. Your write-ups can be mailed to the Editor through the ID denisgiles@yahoo.com

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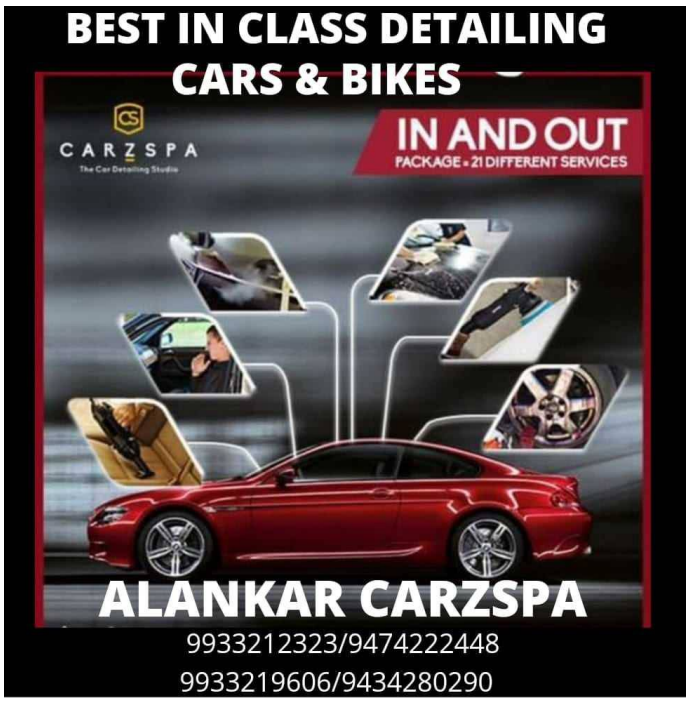

Passing Out Ceremony of 51st Batch of Foresters Held at Forest Training Institute

Port Blair, July 14: The passing out ceremony of the 51st Batch of Foresters was held at Forest Training Institute, Wimberlygunj today. The ceremony marked the end of the one year basic forestry training of 16 newly recruited Foresters. Dr. T. S. Ashok Kumar, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Env. & Forests), Andaman & Nicobar Islands, who was the chief guest of the function, planted sapling of Khatta Phal (Baccaurea sapida) inside the campus of FTI and received guard of honour from the outgoing trainees during the passing-out parade. He gave away the Course Completion Certificates to the trainees.

In his convocation address, highlighting the importance of forestry and wildlife sector, Dr. T.S. Ashok Kumar, exhorted the trainees to excel themselves with utmost sincerity, honesty and professional competence towards protection of natural resources in these Islands. He appealed all the trainees to work in their field with a simple motto -'Discipline, Sincerity and Honesty'.

Shri Kamal Datta, IFS, Addl. PCCF (A&V) and Dr. S.Senthil Kumar, IFS, Addl. PCCF (CRZ&FC) were also present on the occasion as guests of honour and addressed the gathering emphasizing on protection & conservation of the vast flora and fauna of the fragile eco-system of these island with utmost dedication. The chief guest and guests of honour adorned the meritorious trainees with gold and silver medals.

Earlier, Shri C A Majeed, Director of the Institute, presented the course report of the batch with declaration of result while Shri Alkab Hasan, Instructor, Forest Training Institute welcomed the gathering.

Many Senior Officers from Forest Department and other line Departments, Scientific Institutions along with the local PRI members including Zilla Parishad Member and Pradhan were also present at the function. The function also witnessed representations from the local public and the family members of outgoing trainees.

Shri Mohd. Shameer, Forester received the Toppers Gold Medal from the chief guest for the overall performance both in theory as well as practical sessions of the one year long training course. Among the four silver medals awarded, Shri Mohd. Shameer fetched two medals in 'Survey & Engineering' and 'Biodiversity Conservation' while Miss NK. Parveen Shabnam, bagged the silver medals for 'Forestry' and 'Field Management'. The silver medals in Marathon race for men and women category were secured by Shri. N. Mohd. Sakir and Smti. Bipasha Roy respectively. The silver medal for best sports person of the batch was bagged by Miss B. Sweta.

The function concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Shri Vijay Kishen, Instructor of the Institute.

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Awareness Programme on 'Ill Effects of Alcohol and Drug Abuse' Organised in Girls SSS

Port Blair, July 14: The Department of Social Welfare in collaboration with Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCAs) & Police Department organized an awareness programmes for the students and teachers of Govt. Girls Sr. Sec. School today. 170 students including teachers were sensitized on 'Ill Effects of Alcohol and Drug Abuse' under Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan during the programme.

The programme was attended by Dr. Nitin Shakya, Director (Social Welfare). In his address, he mentioned, how substance abuse can have various negative effects on females, both physically and mentally and prolong use of drugs can damage vital organs such as the liver, heart, and lungs while it can also weaken their immune system, making females more susceptible to infections and illnesses. He said, certain drugs or stimulants can cause significant weight loss or gain, malnutrition and hormonal imbalances. Drug abuse is strongly linked to mental health disorders in females and Drug use can increase the risk of developing conditions such as anxiety and cause depression, he remarked.

The resource persons, Dr. Mahato from Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for Addicts (IRCAs), Swamy Shri Hari Padananda from Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Shri Prashish Kumar from Saathii (NGO) and Shri Rahil Islam, Sub Inspector from Police Department highlighted the issues related to drug abuse in their speeches.

Earlier, welcoming the gathering, the Principal, expressed gratitude to the Administration for organizing such awareness programmes. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by the Nodal Teacher of the school.

Department of Art & Culture Invites Artists to Participate in New Logo Designing for UT Administration

Port Blair, July 14: The Department of Art & Culture, A&N Administration has invited artists to participate in designing new logo for the Union Territory of A&N Administration. Participants should provide High -Resolution Logo in .psd/.ai format. The winner of the competition shall be required to submit the design in an editable and open file format. Logo should be designed in colour. The size of the logo may vary from 5 cm X 5 cm to 60 cm x 60 cm in either portrait or landscape. The Logo should be in high resolution with minimum 300 DPI. All entries received would be scrutinized by a Selection Committee.

Entries would be judged on the basis of elements of creativity, theme, originality, composition, technical excellence and artistic merit excellence. Only one entry shall be permitted per person or organization. All entries should be submitted to cellularjailandaman@gmail.com.

The entries submitted through any other mode will not be considered. The winning design of Logo will be the intellectual property of the UT Administration. The Logo design must be original and should not violate any provision of the Indian Copyright Act, 1957. The Competent Authority of Andaman & Nicobar Administration reserves the right to cancel or amend all or any part of this contest. The best entry will be awarded suitably. Last date for submission of entries is 25th July, 2023.

SPORTS

England beats Spain to win dramatic Under-21 Euro final

Batumi (Georgia), July 14: England won the under-21 European Championship for the first time since 1984 as Curtis Jones' goal beat Spain 1-0 in Saturday's final.

In a dramatic finale in Batumi, Spain captain Abel Ruiz had a 99th-minute penalty saved by Manchester City goalkeeper James Trafford to preserve England's record of not conceding a goal all tournament.

"I told everyone this morning I was going to save a pen, and when it was a penalty I knew I was going to save it," said Trafford, who has been strongly linked with a £19 million ($24 million) move to Premier League newcomers Burnley.

"We are a very good team and we believe that no one can score against us and we showed it."

Lee Carsley's men won all six games in Georgia and Romania to continue a golden age for England's youth sides.

The Three Lions are also reigning European champions at under-19 level and won the under-17 and under-20 World Cups back in 2017.

There was a hint of fortune about the only goal as the ball struck Jones from Cole Palmer's free-kick

in first-half stoppage time and looped into the far corner.

Spain did have the ball in net after the break when Ruiz headed home only to be denied by the offside flag.

The Braga striker had an even better opportunity 20 minutes from time when he headed wide with the goal gaping.

England could also have put the five-time winners away before an incredible ending as Arnau Tenas made fine saves to deny Jones and Noni Madueke a second.But they needed Trafford to produce some heroics at the death.He parried Ruiz's spot-kick and a follow-up effort from Aimar Oroz to spark wild celebrations among the England players and coaching staff.

The drama did not end there as Morgan Gibbs-White and Antonio Blanco, who had already been substituted, were both shown red cards.

Earlier, former Chelsea and Arsenal left-back Ashley Cole, who is part of the England coaching staff, had also been dismissed from the bench.

But in front of the watching Gareth Southgate, England held on to go one better than the senior side managed in losing the Euro 2020 final two years ago.

ICC Board meet: India to get maximum share; only 4 overseas players allowed in new T20 leagues

New Delhi, July 14: The BCCI reaffirmed its status as the financial powerhouse of world cricket as the ICC unanimously passed the revenue distribution model at its all-powerful board meeting in Durban on July 13.

In another important development, the ICC has put a cap on overseas cricketers plying their trade for teams in various leagues, keeping it to four players per playing XI in new events. This is primarily meant for T20 leagues starting in every nook and corner, which is posing a threat to the international version of the game.

While the ICC media release didn't state the quantum of revenue that the BCCI will generate from the new distribution model, it is expected that the Indian board will annually earn $230 million from the $600 million pot for the next four years.

It is around 38.4 percent approximately and at least six times more than England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), who are set to receive approximately

$41 million at 6.89% and Cricket Australia (CA) who will get $37.53 million (around 6.25%). They are distant second and third in the list.

"The ICC Board also confirmed the largest ever investment into the sport after the distribution model for the next four years was agreed," the ICC release stated.

"Every ICC Member will receive significantly enhanced funding with a strategic investment fund ring-fenced to drive global growth initiatives in line with the ICC Global Growth Strategy," it further stated.

While the numbers were not there in the release, an ICC board member confirmed that the BCCI got its rightful share for its contribution to the growth of the sport and in this cycle each member would earn significantly more.

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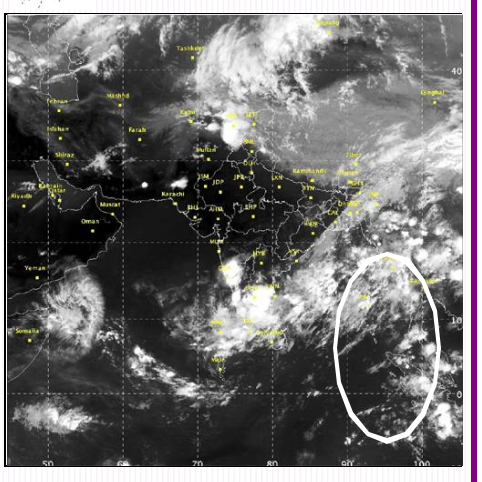
Fire Service:	101
Ambulance:	102
DC Control Room:	1070
Shipping:	245555
Postal :	232346, 232890
Children:	1098
Women:	244701
Coast Guard for Search & Rescue (SAR)	1554
Coast Guard RHQ:	232681
Coastal Security	1093
State Control Room:	1077, 238880
PBMC Control Room:	245798
Kisan Call Centre:	1551
Wildlife Control Room: :	245229, 200661, 200754

Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs)

State Control Room:	03192- 238880 (Tele-Fax), 1070 (Helpline).
District Control Room:	03192-238881
EOC (Campbell Bay):	03193-264020
EOC (Kamorta):	03193-263222
EOC (N&M):	03192-262960
EOC (Hut Bay):	03192-284014

Weather



Max. Temp: 31.3°C Min.: 26.2°C
Relative Humidity: 0830 Hrs: 76% 1730 Hrs: 82%
Sunrise: 0503 Hrs. Sunset: 1748 Hrs.
Rainfall upto 0830 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.): 002.2 mm
Rainfall upto 1730 Hrs (Last 24 Hrs.): 000.0 mm
Total Rainfall (From Jan 1, 2023 till date): 997.0 mm

Forecast

Light Rain and thunder/ lightning is very likely over Port Blair. Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 32°C and 26°C respectively on Saturday 15/07/2023.

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